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RE:

SERIAL NO.

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8 Pages (including cover sheet)

This transmission includes:

Response & Amendment to Final Office Action dated 29-JAN-2004 (7 pgs.)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/874,606

Confirmation No.

6706

Applicants

Stephen L. Skala et al.

Filed

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Examiner

Junghwa M. Im

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 29, 2004, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification there are no amendments in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims there are no amendments in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.